

## REMEDATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR September 24, 2003

Note to readers: We've had problems distributing the 'RR News from DNR' due to our newest spam control software. We apologize for the delay in delivering this information.

### SITE ASSESSMENT GRANT APPLICATIONS WILL BE DUE IN JANUARY

The RR Program has finalized the schedule for the next round of Brownfield Site Assessment Grant (SAG) applications. We plan to make new grant application forms and instructions available by November 1, with applications due in early January of 2004. In order to be ready in January communities should begin planning now. We suggest that applicants start now to identify priority brownfield properties, begin securing access to them, begin preparing cost estimates for grant activities and start the process to adopt a municipal resolution (a required part of the application). Since we will be revising the application form, however, applicants should wait to fill out the form. We will not be able to accept applications written on the old forms. New applicants should look at the old form as a guide to understanding the information that they need to assemble - we do not anticipate significant revisions to the form and instructions. The old documents are available on our web site at:

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/rbrownfields/sag.htm>. The 2004-2005 state budget allocated \$1.7 million for the SAG program in each fiscal year. For more information, please contact Michael Prager at [michael.prager@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:michael.prager@dnr.state.wi.us), or at 608-261-4927.

### SAG RULE REVISIONS

The RR Program is planning to revise the Site Assessment Grant (SAG) rules (NR 168, Wis. Adm. Code) in order to clarify and improve the grant process. Interested parties may suggest changes in the SAG rule to Michael Prager at 608-261-4927, or at [michael.prager@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:michael.prager@dnr.state.wi.us). These rule changes will not be completed prior to the next grant application deadline in January of 2004. (As noted above, however, the RR Program plans to amend the form for applications to be received in January.) Please watch the "RR News from DNR" for more information about proposed rule changes and the dates and locations for public hearings. We expect rule changes to be in effect for grant applications that will be due in late 2004 or early 2005. The current SAG rules are on the web at <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/nr/nr100.html>

### FEDERAL GRANT APPLICATION WORKSHOPS

As four Wisconsin cities (Delavan, Oshkosh, Richland Center, Milwaukee) work on cleanup and redevelopment projects funded by EPA brownfield grants, other local governments are anticipating applying for these grants. The grants can provide:

- \$200,000 (or more) for brownfield inventory, assessment, and planning,
- Up to \$1 million to establish a revolving loan fund and to offer sub-grants for local brownfield cleanups and,
- \$200,000 for specific brownfield cleanup projects.

EPA staff have offered to provide grant overviews and respond to questions in several workshops in Wisconsin. Communities that anticipate a federal grant application and want more information may contact Laurie Egre at [Laurie.Egre@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:Laurie.Egre@dnr.state.wi.us), or at 608-267-7560 to indicate interest in a workshop. We will determine the number and location of workshops based on the demand and the availability of EPA staff. For an overview of these grants please visit the DNR web site at [http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/financial/federal\\_brfls.html](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/financial/federal_brfls.html). To see the draft federal grant guidelines, please see the EPA web site at <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm>. The proposed application deadline is November 17, 2003.

### MORE GRANT REMINDERS

Wisconsin Coastal Management Grants - Wisconsin Coastal Management Grants Program (WCMP) applications are due November 7. These grants apply to the state's 820 miles of shoreline adjacent to Lakes Superior and Michigan. Grants can cover coastal land acquisition, wetland protection and habitat restoration, non-point source pollution control, resource and

community planning, education, public access and historic preservation. Some previous grants have addressed contamination in surface waters that discharge to the Great Lakes. Cost-share requirements may be met with in-kind contributions. Applicants are encouraged to contact WCMP staff to discuss their proposals and the application requirements. Application materials, a schedule of workshops, funding priorities and previous grant recipients are available on the WCMP web site at [http://www.doa.state.wi.us/pagesubtext\\_detail.asp?linksubcatid=250](http://www.doa.state.wi.us/pagesubtext_detail.asp?linksubcatid=250). You may call WCMP at (608) 267-7982.

**Blight Elimination and Brownfields Redevelopment (BEBR) Grants** - The Wisconsin Department of Commerce administers BEBR grants as part of the Community Development Block Grant Program. The grants are designed to help communities assess or remediate contamination at abandoned, idle or underused industrial or commercial facilities and blighted areas. A redevelopment plan that describes how the property will be reused for commercial or industrial development that results in jobs and private investment in the community is required. Towns, villages, or cities that are not entitlement communities and any county other than Milwaukee, Waukesha, and parts of Dane are eligible. Funds can be used for Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments, environmental investigations, and remediation of blighted sites. The community must provide at least 25% of the funding. The maximum award is \$100,000 for environmental assessments, and \$500,00 for environmental remediation projects. For more information, please see the Commerce web site at <http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/CD/CD-bfi-programs.html>.

#### GIS INFORMATION STILL PROBLEMATIC

NR 716, Wis. Adm. Code, requires reporting of the geographic coordinates of contaminated sites. Some RR staff in northern Wisconsin still find that consultants fail to provide this data. We'd like to again remind consultants to submit this information on the site facilities map that is required by s. NR 716.15(2)(d)6. If the location coordinates were determined by geographic positioning system (GPS) technology, place the coordinates on each property on the map at the actual location from which they were collected. NR 716 also allows obtaining these coordinates by using our GIS Registry of Closed Remediation Sites at <http://gomapout.dnr.state.wi.us/org/at/et/geo/gwur/index.htm>.

#### VACANT PROPERTIES CAMPAIGN

A national campaign to reclaim blighted lands in cities and aging suburbs is being funded by the Fannie Mae Foundation and the US EPA, with participation by Smart Growth America, the Local Initiatives Support Corporation and the International City/County Management Association. For more information, please see <http://vacantproperties.org/>.

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